



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Workshop

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

7:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Council President Gallo called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- II. **Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on January 5, 2023 of this meeting and its location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and Two River Times and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough's Web Site.

III. **Flag Salute, Statement to the Public:** Council President Gallo led attendees and members of the Council in the flag salute.

IV. **Roll Call:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jay Coffey	Mayor	Remote
William Deerin	Councilman	Present
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Present
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Present
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Absent
Keith Salnick	Councilman	Present
Thomas Tvrdik	Councilman	Present
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Present
Scott Arnette	Board Attorney	Present
Donna M. Phelps	Administrator	Present
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Officer	Present

V. **Public Comment on Action Items:** Council President Gallo opened the meeting to the public for comments on Action Items only. As no one from the public appeared, Council President Gallo closed that portion of the meeting.

VI. **Action Items:**

#2023-54 Resolution authorizing payment of BILL LIST 02-02-2023

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, Salnick, Tvrdik
ABSENT: O'Brien

#2023-55 Resolution awarding contract to BSN Sports for sports equipment

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, Salnick, Tvrdik
ABSENT: O'Brien

#2023-56 Resolution authorizing various Grant Applications - *Amended*

Ms. Phelps is writing a grant (revised resolution in packet) FEMA assistance to Fire Fighters grant vehicle acquisition grant will be for Pearce enforcer pumper and required fire fighter training for approx. \$950,000, and an equipment grant for air compressor filling stations \$105,000. Councilman Salnick asked when are the grant applications being submitted and is there a limit on how many and how much we can apply for? Ms. Phelps said the assistance to Fire Fighters Grant is very specific and you cannot apply for vehicles if they are older than 1992.

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, Salnick, Tvrdik
ABSENT:	O'Brien

#2023-57 Resolution promoting Jaret Casto-Valverde to full time laborer for the Public Works Dept

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, Salnick, Tvrdik
ABSENT:	O'Brien

#2023-58 Resolution appointing Robert Berg as labor for the Public Works Dept

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
SECONDER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, Salnick, Tvrdik
ABSENT:	O'Brien

- VII. Clerk's Report:** Ms. Smith reported receipt of the annual Verizon Franchise fee which totaled \$53,000.65 for 2022; reviewed regular meeting items from the Agenda which were moved forward with no objections. Ms. Smith advised that the Police Department had submitted a request for Council to approve a Hold Harmless for Jackson Township for use of one of their range facilities – one specific range not permitted to use without the agreement in place with no objections to moving that forward.

Ms. Smith further reported that a resident from Shapen Way had submitted a written request appealing to the Council that his roadway be included with the other roads in the neighborhood being considered for the next road program. The resident was in attendance and would bring up the topic in Public Comments.

Ms. Smith reported on the LOSAP Program. Each year the Fire and First Aide organizations put together a certified list stating how many members achieved the required amount of points and are eligible for contributions, Fire reports 42 members, First Aid pending but will be included next meeting if received timely. Lists will be posted after Council approval.

Old Business:

1. Resolution granting temporary waiver of Noise Ordinance for The Park Loft – item held over from December as it pertained to 2023 business. Event being held on 12/31/2023 for New Year's Eve and business owner was seeking temporary relief from the Noise Ordinance of 10 pm to provide until 1AM for the event. Closest residential was East Gate community but buffered by the church, Family Promise, etc. There was brief discussion with no objections to approve with the condition that there be no music outdoors after 10pm.
2. Community Rating System/National Flood Insurance Program, Councilman Salnick gave a brief description on the program. Councilman Salnick explained that the town gets credits based on certain criteria. Each town gets a rating which determines the discount to be applied towards flood insurance. Mr. White, the Borough's Engineer, added additional details as the Flood Plain Manager. Mr. White stated what the town has done in the past and what the town is currently doing to keep our score up. Ms. Smith stated that every year herself, Mr. White and Mr. Baldanza the construction official do review the information as it is required they do so. Ms. Smith also suggested having the Planning and Development Committee further look into this as they may be able to suggest other areas where we could improve. After further discussion, Council agreed to refer this to the Health and Human Services Committee to discuss with the Environmental Commission and Water Watch Committee for recommendations.
3. Special Committee for Blackberry Bay Park Pool Site, Councilman Salnick stated that he would like to form a special committee that he would chair to come up with ideas of what to do with the old pool site. It was recommended to Councilman Salnick that he reach out to the Recreation Committee as they have been working on ideas for the space and getting prices. Mayor Coffey responded by saying everyone is welcome to bring ideas to the Council on what they would like to see the space used for. It is not necessary to have a special committee for that. Mayor Coffey also stated that he would love to see a pool but the cost is just not feasible.

New Business:

4. Notice from Eatontown - Hearing on Adoption of Monmouth Mall Redevelopment Plan, Borough Clerk - *announced*
5. Resolution authorizing an exception of Chapter 267 "Noise", TRWRA Main Install – *reviewed and moved forward*
6. Shore Youth Lacrosse - Request to Place Storage Unit at Maria Gatta Park - Ms. Smith advised that Shore Youth Lacrosse have purchased their own goals and would like to place a storage unit at the park to store them. There was a discussion by Council with no objections subject to a discussion with Public Works as to where the storage unit is placed. Ms. Smith will prepare a resolution.
7. 9-1-1 Shared Services Agreement, Administrator – Ms. Phelps reported that the shared service agreement with the county for our dispatch is up for renewal a three year period and will included a two percent increase for the duration of the agreement. Ms. Phelps asked that this be added to the February 16th meeting and with no objections moved forward to the next meeting for action.
8. Proposed Financial Services - Check Fraud, CFO – Ms. LaPorta spoke on how many municipalities are victims of check fraud because we publish our bill lists. They see a list of who we are paying along with the amount. They are recreating the checks and submitting them to the banks. When we reconcile our accounts we are only looking at the amount and not the payee. Ms. LaPorta stated that TD Bank offers a Positive Pay Program. We would upload our check register to TD Bank and they take the time to verify the payee and the amount prior to the check hitting our account. The cost to us would be under \$800 for the year. Council was in agreement to move forward with getting the Positive Plan.
9. Strategic Communications & Social Media - Stateside Affairs, Mayor Coffey – Mayor Coffey stated that he received a letter from the company Stateside Affairs. They are a social media / public affairs company. They would like to do a phone call to see if there is any interest in their services. The company currently provides services to several municipalities. Mayor Coffey asked if anyone was interested in this type of representation for the borough. The Council agreed to do the call and see what the company has to offer.
10. CentraState's Mobile Health Services, Mayor Coffey – Mayor Coffey received an email from the Health Equity Coordinator at Centra State Health Services. They would like to see if we are interested in hosting their Live Life Well program which provides free health services. They will pick a date and time and we can choose where they go. There is no cost to the borough. The Council was in agreement and Mayor Coffey stated he will move forward with setting this up.
11. 2023 Municipal Budget, Councilman O'Brien – Ms. LaPorta gave an update on behalf of Councilman O'Brien who could not attend the meeting. Ms. LaPorta stated that she reached out to all department heads and presented last year's budget expenses and asked that they let her know if they anticipate any increases to there budget. Ms. LaPorta will bring all requests to the Finance Committee.
12. Proposed Amendments to ByLaws related to Standing Committee assignments, Councilman Salnick – Councilman Salnick spoke at length about having each Council member rotate each month going to committee meetings. Councilman Salnick felt that each Council member should be apart of each committee specifically the finance committee. Council consensus was to keep the committee assignments as currently set up.
13. Wolf Hill School Water Retention Issue, Councilman Salnick – Councilman Salnick spoke at length about the residents' concerns with the current plan for the water retention issue and questioned what was being done to take care of the issue. Councilman Tvrdik stated that they are in Phase 1 and that there has not been an approved proposal. Councilman Tvrdik met with the architect for the school project along with the building department about the second floor addition. Councilman Tvrdik requested from the building department that they pull al drainage and grading plans prior to construction. There is a meeting set up to discuss solutions with all of the professionals.

- VIII. Administrator's Report:** Ms. Phelps reported that the borough was selected to host a shredding event. The event will take place on Saturday, June 17th from 9-1pm. She received the hosting agreement which needs a resolution authorizing that the borough can sign the agreement between the count and the municipality. Ms. Smith will have the resolution ready for the next meeting. DPW sent a sample from the borough compost pile out for testing. The PH came back at 718 out of 800. Ms. Phelps thanked Public Works for staying on top of the piles. NJ American Water Company is changing the process of how they do water testing. The new process will start the week of February 6th.
- IX. Mayor's Report:** Mayor Coffey reported that they had their first official meeting with representatives from Netflix. They gave a short overview of what's going on. This was the first of many meetings that will take place over the next 18-24 months. Mayor Coffey concluded with condolences to the Bell family. Barbara was a bus driver for the Oceanport School District from 1969 to 2018.
- X. Public Comment:** Council President Gallo opened the meeting to Public Comments.

Eric Johnson, 7 Shapen Way, asked questions about which roads are being paved. He asked if Shapen Way would be paved and asked that this road be considered. Mr. White via phone commented on the road program. He stated that they discussed specific roads to be paved but nothing has been confirmed as of yet. He explained that each year the committee decides and brings the recommendations to the Council. Mr. White stated that they will add Shapen Way to the list for consideration.

Suzanne Hantson, 32 Steeple Chase Court, commented on the Wolf Hill Water Retention problem. She stated that due to the pond of water they now have a mosquito problem. Councilman Tvrdik responded that they are working with the school to come up with a solution.

Irene Elliott, 64 Kimberly Way, commented on the water issue and asked that a drainage system be put in to solve the problem.

Steven Raia, 12 Osprey Lane, commented on the water issue and asked that the Council find a solution to actually solve the problem.

Roseanne Letson, 50 Deer Path Ct, Tinton Falls, presented the Oceanport – A Great Place To Live book. She brought copies if anyone would like to purchase. She wanted to follow up on a statement Councilman Salnick made earlier about the Historical Committee helping to bring back the Oceanport pool. Let it go on record that the Historical Committee will not be helping.

Ed Ryan, 24 Willow Ct, commented on the water issue and said he would like to see the issue corrected.

- XI. Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM on a motion by Councilman Deerin, seconded by Councilman Tvrdik and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK